

I think all of us know that we live in a time of rapid change. But as the United States moves forward into this new world, we can't afford to forget where we've been. We can't afford to leave our oldest and truest friends behind.

For nearly 50 years, the United States and Pakistan have been close friends and allies. Even though we come from different cultures and have different customs, in the end we are united by our hopes and dreams for the future and by our deep, profound belief in democracy. Those values have brought us together through tough times—and they must sustain us now.

However, I'm concerned that we have pushed Pakistan away from us the past few years.

Mr. Speaker, I have said it before and I'll say it again: Pakistan is not a terrorist nation or a nuclear outlaw, and it's time we stop treating them as if they were.

If we are truly going to meet the goals we all share in South Asia we must work with both India and Pakistan to make it happen.

To be honest, I'm encouraged by some of the developments I have seen recently. Thanks to Prime Minister Bhutto's efforts at reform, over \$20 billion has been invested in Pakistan—half of which came from private American investors. That's more than any other time in history. In addition, we were all appreciative of Pakistan's efforts to work with us to capture Ramzi Yousef, one of the key suspects in the World Trade Center bombing.

Last week, I'm also told that for the first time since 1990, the Pentagon has had fruitful discussions with Pakistan about our common defense interests in South Asia.

And as we all know, both the White House and Congress are working with Pakistan to come up with ways to resolve this dispute over the planes. I agree with President Clinton: I don't think it's right that Congress keeps the money Pakistan paid for those planes. Not only have we kept over a billion dollars—we're actually charging Pakistan a \$50,000 storage fee for each jet. Some in Congress have suggested that we should sell the planes to a third party, then give the money to Pakistan. But we are working on this issue now and hopefully we'll reach a solution in the next few months.

But there are two other issues we should all be able to agree on. The Senate is working on the antiterrorism bill. But while we work for solutions, we can't allow people to be scapegoated on the basis of ethnicity or race.

When those first reports were coming out of Oklahoma City—looking for three "Middle Eastern men"—it brought back painful memories from the Persian Gulf war, when Moslem-Americans actually saw their homes being searched. As much as we all want to crack down on terrorism, we have to do it in such a way that doesn't hurt innocent people and doesn't violate constitutional rights.

When this bill comes to the House floor—which should be in the next month or so—I look forward to working to make sure these concerns are addressed.

I also look forward to continuing to work and to speak out on behalf of the people of Kashmir. By all indications, the situation in Kashmir isn't getting any better.

Just last Saturday, the Indian Government canceled elections in Kashmir yet again—and extended its direct rule. We can't sit back as

Indian Government security forces continue to rape, torture, and murder innocent women and children.

If India hopes to have any kind of relationship with the United States in the future, I believe these issues must be addressed, the troops must be withdrawn, international observers must be allowed in, and the people of Kashmir must be given the opportunity to determine their own destiny. Because if they're not, I believe the whole issue of Indian aid comes into question. The world simply cannot afford to have two nuclear powers locked in mortal combat over disputed territory any longer. It's up to all of us to help solve this.

Mr. Speaker, the Pakistani-American community has provided real leadership on these issues in recent years. We all live in a time of exciting change.

I look forward to working to make sure that we can make that change work for all of us.

HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY EASTERN STAR HOME

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eastern Star Nursing Home for 100 years of quality service. Located in Macon, IL, the home has, for a century, provided exceptional living conditions for the Sisters of the Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois. I want to take this opportunity to wish them my very best as they enter a new era of providing excellence in health care.

The members of Eastern Star offer guidance and support to young women from across the country, and always strive to work together for the benefit of mankind. This non-profit, sheltered, and intermediate life care facility is dedicated to providing superior medical care to its residents, furnishing 58 women a caring and compassionate home that ensures a safe and secure living environment.

The Eastern Star Nursing Home is the only remaining retirement home specifically designated for the Sisters of the Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois. Since 1895, the home has set the standard of excellence in this area of health care. I applaud the home's dedicated staff, and I salute the members of this civic minded organization. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Eastern Star Nursing Home on its century of service to the people of southeastern Illinois.

REFUTING DEMOCRAT SCARE TACTICS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to the comments of Ian M. Yarian, a resident of Gansevoort, NY in my congressional district. Ian, for one, has not fallen prey to the vicious scare tactics being employed by Democrats who have no solutions to the crises facing our Nation. It is cer-

tainly encouraging to see the comments of Americans outside the beltway who don't fall victim to the Washington propaganda which floods the news media.

To that end, Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to submit Ian's remarks as published in The Saratogian newspaper in Saratoga Springs, NY. I ask all my fellow Members to pay close attention to the logic of his argument, especially those colleagues on the other side of the aisle who simply seek to employ class warfare as opposed to addressing the concerns of the people.

REPUBLICANS AREN'T OUT TO ROB US

(By Ian Yarian)

After reading the May 17 Speaking Out column by Ron Deutsch, I can't help but speak out also.

I am one of the so-called middle class the Republicans are accused of trying to rob. I am also a single parent. I am tired of the leftist drivel being spouted concerning the Contract With America. People like Mr. Deutsch are either ignorant of the facts or they are intentionally misrepresenting them. The proposed spending for the balanced budget does not cut vital services, nor does it redistribute the money from such programs to the wealthy.

First, the Republicans are not cutting welfare, Social Security or Medicare. What they are doing is trying to curb the runaway spending increases that will bankrupt the programs and leave nothing for my generation.

The programs are in fact being increased in accordance with appropriate inflationary figures instead of the arbitrary current services baseline which makes no logical budgetary sense. Democrats routinely hide behind this automatic 10 to 12 percent annual spending increase to mask their irresponsible spending habits and turn the truth around to claim Republican-proposed smaller increases are cuts.

Mr. Deutsch further shows his ignorance by comparing the so-called "cuts" to tax reductions. Tax cuts such as those being proposed have been historically proven to increase revenue generated for the government because they encourage consumer spending, business expansion and investment. They don't need to be paid for. Redistribution of wealth is unfair, to everyone, but the Democrats want us to send more and more of our money to them so they can decide who gets what. They say whatever it takes to scare us into doing it. With so many blatant lies coming out of the mouths of Democrats lately, they must believe we are all to ignorant to look up the facts for ourselves. Unfortunately, few make the attempt.

The federal school lunch program fiasco is one such example. The Republicans proposed a 4 percent increase in funding. President Clinton and the Democrats had proposed a 3 percent increase, but they campaigned the countryside to tell people the Republicans were planning to take food from the mouths of children. The only people cut out by the Republicans would have been the federal elitists who have been mismanaging the program and lining their pockets. Control of the lunch program would have been given to individual states where programs have been proven again and again to be more efficient. Do Democrats feel our state governments are as incapable as they believe the citizens to be?

Democrats are clearly interested only in preventing Republicans from doing what they were elected to do, not in the future of America. I am firmly convinced if Republicans all got together and decided to give a